

CHESTRA, A POEM OF
DANCING. 39

63-

As when a Nymph arising
from the land, Leadeth a
dance, with hef long watery
train? Down to the sea, she
wries to every hand, And every
way doth cross the fertile
plain ; But when, at last, she
falls into the Main,
Then all her traverses concluded are,
And with the sea, her course is
circular*

64.

Thus, when, at first, LOVE had them
marshalled, (As erst he did the
shapeless mass of things) He taught
them Rounds and winding Heyes to
tread, And about the trees, to cast
themselves in rings: As the two
Bears, whom the First Mover flings
With a short turn, about Heaven⁹s
Axle-tree^
In a round dance, for ever wheeling
be»

65.

But after these, as men more civil grew,
He did more grave and solemn
Measures frame;
With such fair order and proportion
true*
And correspondence every way the
same>
That no fault-find[^]ng eye did ever
blame; For every eye was
moved at the sight With sober
wondering, and with sweet
delight.

66.

Not those old students of the heavenly
book,
ATLAS the great, PROMETHEUS the wise;
Which on the stars did all their lifetime
look,
Could ever find such measures in the
skies,
So jull of change and rare varieties :
Yet all the feet whereon these
measures go Are only Spondees,
solemn, grave, and slow.